

USDA/Rural Development

Bismarck, North Dakota

FOR IMMEDIATE Release

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USDA PROVIDES NEARLY \$6 MILLION TO SPARK RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

BISMARCK, October 10, 2002--Last week Agriculture Under Secretary for Rural Development

Thomas C. Dorr announced the selection of nearly 100 projects totaling \$5.8 million in competitive grant funds for rural economic and community development in 39 states.

The grants were made available through the Community Facilities program of USDA Rural Development's Rural Housing Service. Rural Development offers assistance to develop essential community facilities and services for public use in rural communities with populations of less than 20,000.

In North Dakota, five projects received a combined total of \$330,310. The economic grant funds will help create jobs and stimulate economic growth in rural North Dakota communities. The five projects range from infrastructure, to wellness and daycare centers and firefighting and emergency services.

Grant funds are available to eligible public entities, nonprofit corporations and tribal governments. The funds provide for community service facilities including fire and rescue buildings/equipment, streets, utilities, community buildings, libraries, hospitals, clinics and day-care centers.

(See Reverse Side)

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Selected ND communities and grant totals include:

<u>City of St. John, Rolette County</u>	\$ 91,490
Purpose: Rural Development grant funds will be used for street paving.	
<u>Upham Fire Protection District</u>	\$ 24,000
Purpose: Rural Development grant funds for costs overrun of the construction of the new fire hall.	
<u>City of Minnewaukan</u>	\$ 10,000
Purpose: Rural Development grant funds will purchase building for new library.	
<u>Turtle Mountain Community College</u> (Tribal College Grant)	\$102,410
Purpose: Rural Development grant funds to construct a wellness center on campus.	
<u>Fort Berthold Community College</u> (Tribal College Grant)	\$102,410
Purpose: Rural Development grant funds daycare and student union.	

A complete list of the selected individual grant recipients and projects can be found at:

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rd/newsroom/2002/cfg.html>.

USDA Rural Development serves as the lead federal entity for rural development needs and administers program assistance through three agencies: Rural Housing Service, Rural Business-Cooperative Service and Rural Utilities Service. Further information on USDA Rural Development can be obtained by contacting any USDA Service Center or by visiting USDA's web site at

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

In Fiscal Year 2001 USDA Rural Development provided **over \$58 million** in loan and grant financing in North Dakota.



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